

Early Childhood Transition: AzEIP to Preschool



Goals of this workshop

Learn about -

- The transition requirements for the Arizona Early Intervention Program (AzEIP) and Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) Preschool
- Required meetings
- Transition Process from Part C to Part B



Transition Planning Data

- On or before **February 1st**. AZEIP Service Coordinator notifies district (s) of number of children with an IFSP who will turn 3 years old between February 1st and May 30th of the following year (16th month period).
- On or before **September 15th**. Service Coordinator notifies district(s) of number of children with and IFSP who will turn 3 years old between September May of that school year.

No names or personally identifiable information will be provided, this is a simple a count of children



Arizona Early Intervention Program vs. Early Childhood Special Education Preschool

AzEIP:	ECSE Preschool:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Birth to 3• Family-centered• Natural Environments	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3-5• Child-centered• Preschool setting or individualized services



Arizona Early Intervention Program vs. Early Childhood Special Education Preschool

AzEIP eligibility:	ECSE eligibility:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 45 calendar days from referral• Based on health and developmental status and parent input• Federal and state criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 60 calendar days from parental consent to evaluate• Based on health and developmental status and parent input• Federal and state criteria for 5 disability categories

Arizona Early Intervention Program vs. Early Childhood Special Education Preschool

AzEIP Services and Supports	ECSE Services and Supports
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP)• Addresses family's needs for supporting the child's growth & development	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Individualized Education Program (IEP)• Designed to meet child's needs for supporting child's participation in general education curriculum

Meetings in the Transition Process

1. **Transition Planning Meeting** (between ages of 2.6 and 2.9)
2. **Transition Conference** (between ages 2.6 and 2.9)
3. **Eligibility Meeting with the Multidisciplinary Evaluation Team (MET)**
4. **Individualized Education Program (IEP) Meeting** (on or before child's 3rd birthday)



Transition Planning Meeting

- The Transition Planning Meeting** is a **mandatory** meeting under Part C, the IFSP team meets with the family between the child's age of 2.6 and 2.9 to:
- Document the steps for transition on the child's IFSP
 - Explain Opt-Out policy, PEA Notification/Referral Form and timelines and
 - Provide information to families about options at age three so families can make informed decisions.



Transition Planning Meeting

- Discuss who to invite to the Transition Conference
- Obtain permission to share information
- Plan visits



Opt-Out Policy

- Opt-Out decision must be made no later than 2.8.
- Service Coordinator is required to provide the PEA Notification/Referral form to the school district and the Department of Education no later than 2.9



Transition Conference

Parents can choose not to have this meeting

- When the child is between the ages of 2.6 and 2.9. the Service Coordinator holds a transition conference (with parent agreement).
- This is the meeting that the School District and other possible placements (Head Start, etc.) are required to attend.
- The purpose is to provide information to families the possible placements
- PEA Notification/Referral form can be provided to the school district at this meeting as long as it is held no later than 2.9



Transition Conference

AzEIP must have consent from the parent to share the following with the school district or they can not provide it:

- IFSP, including Summary of Development
- Developmental and medical history, including recent vision and hearing screenings or assessment results



Transition Conference

The following people must attend the meeting:

- Child's parent(s),
- Service Coordinator,
- Provider from IFSP team,
- Representative from school district, and
- Representative of other potential preschool program(s) the parent is considering.



Transition Conference

- Discuss options to make informed choice, including the option to visit all programs being considered.
- District explains eligibility criteria for ECSE, related services and Extended School Year (ESY) services.
- Other programs share information.
- Discuss options for child who may not be eligible for ECSE preschool.



Additional Evaluations

- The child may be scheduled for a Comprehensive Developmental Assessment (CDA) with the school including vision/hearing screening (should pass before evaluation) and further evaluation to determine eligibility.
- The evaluation and eligibility must be determined within 60 days of parental consent to evaluate and the IEP written on or before age 3.



Eligibility Meeting with the Multidisciplinary Evaluation Team (MET)

The following people must attend:

- Child's parent(s),
- Not less than one regular education teacher,
- Not less than one special education teacher or provider,
- Representative from the school district,
- One who can interpret instructional implications of evaluation results, and
- Others with knowledge of child or special expertise.

Eligibility Meeting with the Multidisciplinary Evaluation Team (MET)

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- Evaluation results are discussed
- Eligibility (or non-eligibility) for ECSE preschool is determined
- Parents are given Prior Written Notice of eligibility determination



Early Childhood Special Education Preschool Eligibility Categories

- Speech/Language Impairment (SLI)
- Developmental Delay (DD)
- Hearing Impairment (HI)
- Preschool Severe Delay (PSD)
- Visual Impairment (VI)

Arizona Revised Statutes 15-761



Eligibility Meeting with the Multidisciplinary Evaluation Team (MET)

Options for children not eligible for ECSE preschool:

- Head Start preschools (4-5 days a week)
- Private or community preschools
- Related services through insurance
- Contacts for other preschool options
 - School district (Title I, Community Education, Peer Model for ECSE preschool program, etc.)
 - Child Care Resource & Referral

Individualized Education Program (IEP) Meeting

Participants:

The following people must attend:

- Child's parent(s),
- Not less than one regular education teacher,
- Not less than one special education teacher or provider,
- Representative from the school district,
- One who can interpret instructional implications of evaluation results, and
- Others with knowledge of child or special expertise.

Individualized Education Program (IEP) Meeting:

- Must be held within 30 calendar days of eligibility determination, and at a mutually agreed upon time.
- A free appropriate public education (FAPE) must be provided by the child's 3rd birthday.
- The school may invite AzEIP IFSP team member(s) to initial IEP meeting at parental request.



Individualized Education Program (IEP) Meeting:

In developing each child's IEP, the IEP team must consider the:

- Strengths of the child,
- Parental concerns for enhancing the education of their child,
- Results of the most recent evaluation, and
- Academic, developmental, and functional needs of the child.



Individualized Education Program (IEP) Meeting:

Present levels of academic achievement and functional performance (PLAAFP)

- Measurable annual goals and how progress toward goals will be measured and how often
- Consideration of special factors (behavior, Limited English Proficiency, vision, hearing, communication, assistive technology)



Individualized Education Program (IEP) Meeting:

Document includes

- Least Restrictive Environment (LRE) extent of participation with same-aged peers
- Special education and related services
- Supplementary aids and services



Individualized Education Program (IEP) Meeting:

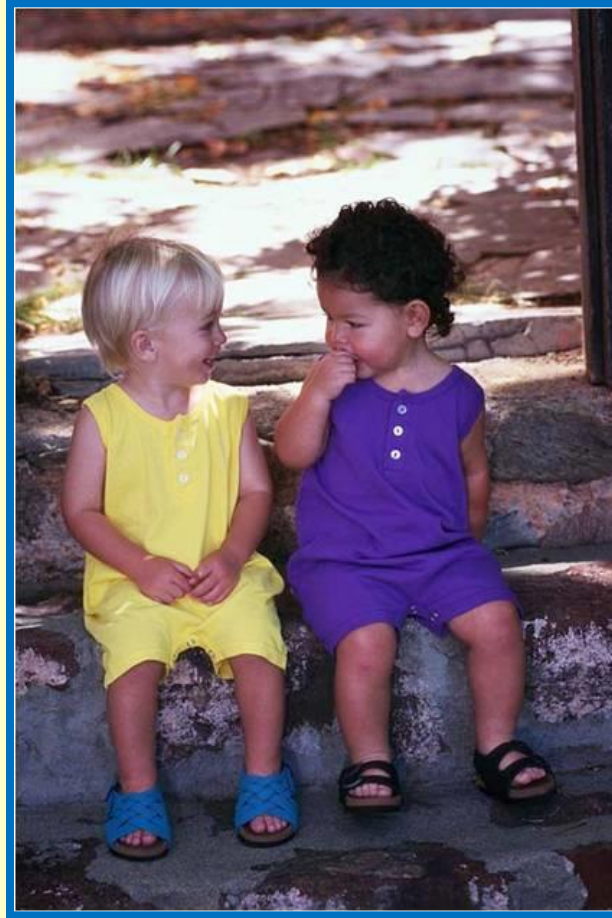
Individualized Education Program (IEP) Document includes:

- Accommodations
- Consideration of Extended School Year (ESY) services
- Consideration of supports for school personnel

*IEP goals are tied to the Arizona Early Learning Standards.



Let's Put it all Together



Resources for Preschool Options

- **School Districts:**

www.azed.gov/edd, 800-352-4558

- **Head Start Programs in Arizona:**

<http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc/HeadStartOffices> ,
866-763-6481

- **Child Care Resource & Referral:** www.azchildcare.org,
800-308-9000



Arizona Resources for Parents

- **Raising Special Kids**
- www.raisingpecialkids.org, 602-242-4366
- **Early Childhood Special Education**
www.azed.gov/earlychildhood, 602-542-1113
E-mail: nicol.russell@azed.gov
- **Child Find, AZ Department of Education**
www.azed.gov/special-education/az-find, 877-230-7467
E-mail: childfind@azed.gov
- **Homeless: McKinney-Vento (Special Populations)**
<http://www.azed.gov/populations-projects/>,
800-352-4558

- **Raising Special Kids**, www.raisingpecialkids.org, 800-237-3007, info@raisingpecialkids.org
- **Pilot Parents of Southern Arizona**, www.pilotparents.org, 877-365-7220, ppsa@pilotparents.org
- **Arizona Early Intervention Program (AzEIP)**, www.azdes.gov/azeip , (888) 439-5609, allazeip2@azdes.gov
- **Enhancing Arizona's Parent Networks (EAPN)**
www.azeapn.org
- **Birth to Five Helpline**,
<http://www.azftf.gov/WhatWeDo/Programs/Pages/BirthtoFiveHelpline.aspx>, (877) 705-kids (5437)

Transition Contacts

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